

TABLE 2.5-1 Summary of Impacts for Proposed Action and Other Alternatives by Resource Area^a

For the proposed action, that is, the granting of one or both of the Presidential permits and ROWs, for most resource areas, the analysis was bounded by calculating impacts as if both lines had been allowed. This serves two purposes. First, it demonstrates the maximum possible impacts; second, it clearly presents the combined impacts of the agencies' preferred alternative, that is, permitting both facilities. The only exceptions to this methodology are in the areas of air, water, and human health. Impacts to air, water, and human health attributable to permitting each transmission line separately are contained in Sections 4.2, 4.3, and 4.11 of Volume 1 of this EIS, respectively.

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity (4.1)	No additional impacts expected. Normal erosional forces would continue. Because the transmission lines would not be built, seismicity hazards would not be relevant.	<p><i>Geology</i> Minor disturbance of surface material resulting from construction but with minimal potential for slope failure.</p> <p><i>Soils</i> Potential for impacts would increase as a result of vegetation removal, and grading and excavation during construction that could lead to increased erosion. A temporary increase in soil compaction would result from vehicle usage of access roads.</p> <p><i>Seismicity</i> On the basis of the California Geological Survey's ongoing evaluation of fault zones to date, surface fault rupture is not likely to occur along the proposed or alternative transmission line routes.</p> <p>Temporary impacts due to soil disturbance would total about 15.8 acres (6.4 ha); permanent impacts would be less than 3.6 acres (1.5 ha) since no new access road would be built.</p> <p>Temporary impacts would be about 18.0 acres (7.3 ha); permanent impacts about 13.1 acres (5.3 ha). The lower portion of the routes could cross prime farmland soils.</p> <p>Temporary impacts would be about 16.3 acres (6.6 ha); permanent impacts about 10.5 acres (4.2 ha).</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action. In addition, with regard to soils, any paving of roads or construction activities could have short-term adverse impacts to soils due to soil disturbance. Overall, impacts would be beneficial because dust emissions and soil erosion would be reduced over the long term.</p>
<i>Applicants' Proposed Routes</i>				
<i>Western Alternative Routes</i>				
<i>Eastern Alternative Routes</i>				

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Water Resources (4.2)	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> No transmission lines would be built and thus there would be no impacts.</p> <p><i>Water Consumption</i> The EAX unit operation would consume up to 4,940 ac-ft/yr (0.19 m³/s) of water taken from the Zaragoza Oxidation Lagoons in Mexicali.</p> <p><i>Flow Reduction</i> The EAX unit operation would reduce the flow of the New River by less than 4% (15.7% of the standard deviation for the flow at the Calexico gage).</p> <p><i>New River</i> As a result of evaporation of water by the EAX cooling towers and operation of the LRPC water treatment plant, the TDS concentration would be increased by less than 3.7% (31% of the standard deviation and compared to no plants operating). TSS, BOD, COD, and phosphorus loads in the New River would be reduced.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Construction of two transmission lines along the proposed routes or alternative routes would have minimal impacts on surface waters. A maximum of two lattice towers for each line would be placed on the 100-year floodplain for the Pinto Wash. This placement would have minimal impacts on floodplain function or values. Impacts to groundwater would be prevented during construction.</p> <p><i>Water Consumption</i> The LRPC and TDM power plants would consume 10,667 ac-ft/yr (0.42 m³/s) of water for cooling purposes. The water would be taken from the Zaragoza Oxidation Lagoons in Mexicali. (The LRPC power plant alone would consume 7,170 ac-ft/yr [8.84 × 10⁶ m³]. The TDM power plant alone would consume 3,497 ac-ft/yr [4.31 × 10⁶ m³].)</p> <p><i>New River</i> Power plant operations would directly impact the New River by reducing the flow of water received from the Zaragoza Oxidation Lagoons and by modifying its quality. As a result, the average annual flow of the New River would be decreased by about 5.9% at the U.S.-Mexico border (Calexico gage). Decreases in flow would result in a decrease in average annual water depth of about 0.13 ft (3.9 cm) at the Calexico gage and 0.7 ft (2.1 cm) at the Westmorland gage near the Salton Sea. TDS concentrations would increase by 5.6%, or about 46% of its variability in the river at the Calexico gage. TDS, TSS, BOD, COD, phosphorus, and selenium loads would be reduced as a result of water treatment at the plants.</p>	<p>Impacts to the New River, Salton Sea, Brawley wetland, and groundwater would be less than those for the no action and proposed action alternatives and would be proportional to the amount of wet cooling used (estimated to be 44% of the time).</p>	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> Water conservation measures, if they can be readily implemented, could offset water consumed by the power plants. However, impacts to the Salton Sea might be similar to those under the proposed action because of restrictions on the use of conserved water within the IID.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would be the same as for the proposed action. Measures to reduce air quality impacts, such as paving roads, could result in beneficial impacts to water resources over the long term, since surface runoff from unpaved surfaces would be reduced.</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Water Resources (4.2) (Cont.)	<p><i>Salton Sea</i> The Salton Sea inflow would be reduced by 0.4%, or 6.3% of the standard deviation of total inflow with the LRPC EAX unit operating, compared with no plants operating. Salinity would increase by less than 0.17 mg/L/yr.</p> <p><i>Brawley Wetland</i> New River flow reductions resulting from no action would not interfere with withdrawal of water for the wetland. Increases in TDS would not cause adverse impacts to the system.</p> <p><i>Groundwater</i> The flow reduction of 4% at the Calexico gage under no action would have minimal effect on groundwater recharge to the Imperial Valley Groundwater Basin from the New River.</p>	<p><i>Salton Sea</i> New River inflow to the Salton Sea would decrease under the proposed action, thus reducing its volume, lowering its elevation, and decreasing its surface area. The decrease in inflow of 10,667 ac-ft/yr (0.42 m³/s) would result in an elevation decrease of about 0.05 ft (0.6 cm), about 10% of the Sea's natural variability. Surface area would decrease by about 97 acres (39 ha), which is about 0.04% of its initial surface area and about 9% of its natural variability. Decreased water inflow would increase the TDS concentration (salinity) by 0.19 mg/L/yr. This rate of increase would cause the Salton Sea to reach a threshold of 60,000 mg/L, only about 4 days earlier out of 36 years than it would with no plants operating. Phosphorus loads would be reduced by about 5.3%. Selenium loads would be reduced by about 38 lb/yr (17 kg/yr), or about 0.2% of the dissolved mass in the sea.</p> <p><i>Brawley Wetland</i> New River flow reductions from this action would not interfere with withdrawal of water for wetland. Increases in TDS would not cause adverse impacts to the system. Changes in other parameters (i.e., BOD, COD, and pathogens) could have beneficial impacts. All changes would fall within the range of the parameter's variability.</p> <p><i>Groundwater</i> Indirect impacts to groundwater would occur as a result of decreasing flow in the New River under the proposed action, since it is a recharge source for groundwater in the Imperial Valley Groundwater Basin. Impacts to the basin would be minimal because the New River is only one of many recharge sources, and the reduction in its flow is expected to be low.</p>		

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Air Quality (4.3)	<p><i>Transmission Lines:</i> <i>Fugitive Dust Emissions</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations:</i> <i>Primary Emissions</i> Plant emissions would be somewhat greater for no action than for the proposed action for CO and NO_x because of the inclusion of the two Mexico EAX turbines at the LRPC. However, emissions would still result in impacts in the United States below EPA SLs for all pollutants. CO₂ emissions would be about 3.9 million tons/yr (3.5 t/yr), or about 0.066% of total U.S. CO₂ emissions.</p> <p><i>Secondary Air Pollutants</i> Increases or decreases of ambient O₃ concentrations resulting from plant emissions of NO_x and VOC would be minor. Secondary PM₁₀ production from plant emissions would also be minor and similar to that under the proposed action.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines:</i> <i>Fugitive Dust Emissions</i> Temporary emissions from transmission line construction would include those from fugitive dust, PM₁₀ (construction, vehicular traffic, and helicopter operations), and fuel combustion. Construction-related PM₁₀ emissions over the construction period would be about 11.4 tons (10.3 t) for the proposed routes, 14.4 tons (13.1 t) for the western alternative routes, and 12.3 tons (11.2 t) for the eastern alternative routes.</p> <p>Annual total PM₁₀ emissions due to line operation and maintenance would be about 0.080 ton (0.07 t) (proposed route), 0.10 ton (0.09 t) (western route), and 0.088 ton (0.08 t) (eastern route).</p> <p>VOC and NO_x emissions would be negligible.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations:</i> <i>Primary Emissions</i> The impacts from operation of export turbines at the TDM and LRPC power plants are considered as effects of the transmission line projects. Plant emissions of PM₁₀, NO_x, CO, and NH₃ all would result in increases in air concentrations that are below EPA SLs used here as thresholds of significant deterioration of air quality. CO₂ emissions would be about 5.1 million tons/yr (4.6 million t/yr), or about 0.088% of total U.S. CO₂ emissions.</p> <p><i>Secondary Air Pollutants</i> Characterization of the air chemistry in the region suggests that plant emissions of NO_x and VOC could result in slight (less than 1 ppm) increases in the concentration of ambient O₃ levels. Secondary production of PM₁₀ in the atmosphere resulting from plant emissions of NH₃ and NO_x is expected to be no more than 1 µg/m³.</p>	<p><i>Emission Controls</i> CO emissions would be less than those under the proposed action. Emissions of other pollutants would be the same as those for the proposed action.</p> <p>Secondary O₃ and PM₁₀ impacts would be the same as those for the proposed action.</p> <p><i>Wet-Dry Cooling</i> Plant emissions of PM₁₀ would be reduced without wet-cooling tower use. Other emissions would increase as a result of reductions in plant efficiency.</p> <p><i>Fugitive Dust Emissions</i> Emissions from transmission line construction, operation, and maintenance would be the same as for the proposed action.</p>	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation:</i> <i>Primary Emissions</i> Plant emissions would be the same as for the proposed action. Impacts of plant emissions on air quality would be offset by reductions in emissions of the same pollutants from other sources in the air basin.</p> <p><i>Secondary Air Pollutants</i> Secondary O₃ and PM₁₀ impacts from plant emissions could be reduced as compared to those for the proposed action with the use of emission offsets.</p> <p><i>Fugitive Dust Emissions</i> In addition to emissions from transmission line construction, mitigation activities such as road paving could produce temporary fugitive dust emissions but long-term improvement.</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Air Quality (4.3) (Cont.)		<p>The SL for PM₁₀ is not expected to be exceeded with the addition of secondary PM₁₀.</p> <p><i>Fugitive Dust Emissions</i> The emission rate of fugitive dust (PM₁₀) from exposed shoreline resulting from the reduction in the surface area of the Salton Sea would be less than 10 tons/yr (9 t/yr).</p>		
Biological Resources (4.4)	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> No additional impacts to desert habitat or wildlife are expected since no transmission lines would be built.</p> <p><i>New River</i> Impacts to biological resources resulting from changes in water quality and volume in the New River due to operation of the EAX unit at the LRPC would be smaller than for the proposed action.</p> <p>Slight changes in water depth and TDS concentrations would not adversely impact riparian vegetation or aquatic organisms.</p> <p><i>Wetlands</i> The Brawley wetland would not be adversely impacted by a decrease in New River water depth or an increase in salinity.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Permanent impacts to Sonoran creosote bush scrub and desert wash habitat would occur during construction of the transmission lines. Construction may adversely impact small mammals and reptiles with low mobility during construction. No Federal-listed threatened or endangered species would be impacted by the proposed action; however, some sensitive plant species could be disturbed. Protective measures would be taken to minimize impacts to the flat-tailed horned lizard, the western burrowing owl, and other sensitive species.</p> <p><i>New River</i> Water quality changes resulting from operation of the export turbines at TDM and the LRPC would have a minor adverse impact on fish and aquatic invertebrates. Riparian vegetation would not be impacted by a decrease in water depth or an increase in salinity.</p> <p><i>Wetlands</i> No wetlands would be impacted by transmission line construction and operation. Desert wash areas (about 0.2 acre [0.08 ha]) could be adversely impacted. Brawley Wetland would not be adversely impacted by a decrease in New River water depth or an increase in salinity.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> The effects on desert habitat would be the same as those for the proposed action.</p> <p><i>New River</i> The use of an alternative cooling technology at the power plants would reduce the adverse impacts associated with slight water depth and water quality changes to the New River and Salton Sea (although all these impacts would be small).</p> <p><i>Wetlands</i> Impacts would be less to the Brawley wetland than under the proposed action for a wet-dry cooling system.</p>	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> Measures that would offset reductions in flow volume in the New River could slightly improve water quality in the New River and Salton Sea and thus could have a small positive impact on biological resources.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Prior to implementation of road paving and construction, an evaluation of potential impacts to special status species would be conducted.</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
<p>Biological Resources (4.4) (Cont.)</p> <p><i>Applicants' Proposed Routes</i></p> <p><i>Western Alternative Routes</i></p> <p><i>Eastern Alternative Routes</i></p>	<p><i>Salton Sea</i></p> <p>An increase in salinity levels in the Salton Sea would occur at the same rate as with plants operating. No additional impacts to aquatic invertebrates or fish expected.</p>	<p><i>Salton Sea</i></p> <p>Reduction in New River inflow resulting from the proposed action would increase salinity (e.g., increase of 0.19 mg/L/yr) and could cause small adverse impacts to biological resources. A decrease in phosphorus load could reduce eutrophication, resulting in fewer episodic fish kills and improving the food base for some bird species. Impacts to habitat for waterfowl and wading birds would be small.</p> <p>Permanent impact to 3.1 acres (1.3 ha) of Sonoran creosote bush scrub and 0.3 acre (0.1 ha) of desert wash habitat.</p> <p>Permanent impacts would be about 30% greater due to greater length relative to the proposed routes.</p> <p>Permanent impacts would be about 8% greater due to greater length relative to the proposed routes.</p>	<p><i>Salton Sea</i></p> <p>The use of an alternative cooling technology at the power plants would reduce the potential for adverse impacts associated with slight water depth and water quality changes to the New River and Salton Sea (although all these impacts would be small).</p>	
<p>Cultural Resources (4.5)</p> <p><i>Applicants' Proposed Routes</i></p> <p><i>Western Alternative Routes</i></p>	<p>No additional impacts expected.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i></p> <p>Cultural resources would be impacted by the construction and operation of the transmissions lines. Impacts to cultural resources would be mitigated.</p> <p>Construction of the transmission lines in the proposed routes would impact four archaeological sites. Adverse impacts from transmission line construction to these archaeological sites would be mitigated in consultation with the California SHPO.</p> <p>Portions of the western alternative routes have not been surveyed for cultural resources. While these routes would avoid the larger concentrations of archaeological sites found along the proposed routes, the routes would likely impact cultural resources. Any adverse effects would be mitigated prior to construction.</p>	<p>Impacts would be the same as those identified for the proposed action.</p>	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i></p> <p>No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i></p> <p>Any measures involving road paving or construction may require evaluation for NRHP eligibility status and protection in consultation with the California SHPO to mitigate impacts.</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Cultural Resources (4.5) (Cont.) <i>Eastern Alternative Routes</i>		<p>Portions of the eastern alternative routes have not been surveyed for cultural resources. While these routes would avoid the larger concentrations of archaeological sites found along the proposed routes, the routes would likely impact cultural resources. Any adverse effects would be mitigated prior to construction.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>		
<p>Land Use (4.6)</p> <p><i>Applicants' Proposed Routes</i></p> <p><i>Western Alternative Routes</i></p> <p><i>Eastern Alternative Routes</i></p>	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Land use in the area of the projects would be limited because of its status as an ACEC. Vehicle use would be confined to roads, and camping would be limited to designated areas only. No farming or mining is currently allowed in the area.</p> <p>Permanent impacts would be less than 3.6 acre (1.5 ha) since no new access roads would be built. No alteration of current land use plans would be required.</p> <p>Permanent impacts would be greater than those of the proposed and eastern routes: about 13.1 acres (5.3 ha). Routes would partially run outside of BLM-designated Utility Corridor N and would require alteration of land use designations.</p> <p>Permanent impacts would be greater than those of the proposed routes: about 10.5 acres (4.2 ha). No alteration of current land use plans would be required.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would depend on the mitigation measures (e.g., paving roads could result in adverse impacts if access to remote areas is increased).</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Transportation (4.7)	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Traffic in the area of the projects would increase during the transmission line construction period. Given the current levels of service on State Route 98 and low traffic volumes associated with projects, no impacts on existing levels of service are expected for the proposed or alternative routes.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would depend on the mitigation measures. In the short term, adverse impacts could result from increased local traffic.</p>
Visual Resources (4.8)	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Construction and operation of the transmission lines would not alter the Class III Visual Resource Management rating for the area of the projects. Transmission lines would not be a prominent addition to the existing landscape. The location of the lines in the eastern routes would be closer to the nearest residence and a larger aspect of the landscape than in the other routes.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would depend on the mitigation measure used (e.g., a compressed natural gas station would not cause a visual contrast, since its height would be similar to that of a gasoline service station).</p>
Noise Impacts (4.9)	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> No adverse impacts are expected during transmission line construction or operation. Noise levels would be below EPA guideline values for the proposed and western alternative routes. For the eastern alternative routes, construction noise would be above EPA guidelines, but only for a short period of time (8-hour daytime shift, less than 1 week).</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would depend on the mitigation measures (e.g., paving roads would cause short-term adverse noise impacts due to equipment use near residential areas, but retiring old automobiles would have a beneficial impact).</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Socioeconomics (4.10)	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Temporary, small beneficial impacts on the local economy would occur during construction of the transmission lines as a result of wage expenditures and material procurement. Local tax revenues and lease payments to the Federal government from the proposed action are expected be minimal.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> No additional impacts expected.</p>	Impacts would be the same as those under the proposed action.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Impacts would depend on the mitigation measures (e.g., wage and salary spending and material procurement to implement a measure would have a beneficial impact on the local economy).</p>
Human Health Impacts (4.11)	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> No additional impacts from EMF would occur since the transmission lines would not be constructed.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> Impacts due to plant emissions would be minimal since they would be below EPA SLs.</p>	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> No adverse health impacts would be associated with residential magnetic field exposures. Transmission line workers would have higher-than-background exposures while working within the transmission line ROWs; recreational visitors passing within the ROWs would also have higher-than-background exposures for limited amounts of time. The highest field strength for the proposed routes would be directly under the center transmission lines (Intergen lines) at a level of about 53 mG. Field strength would be about 11 mG at the edge of the ROW and less than 1 mG at 140 ft from the ROW edge on either side. Field strengths would be slightly lower for both of the alternative routes.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations:</i> <i>Criteria Pollutants</i> Power plant emissions would result in increased ambient concentrations of NO_x, PM₁₀, and CO in Imperial County. All such increases would be below the EPA SLs. PM₁₀ emissions would be expected to increase asthma hospitalizations by less than one case per year. Health impacts from secondary O₃ formation would be minimal.</p>	<p>EMF impacts would be the same as those for the proposed action. Emission controls (oxidizing catalysts) would reduce CO emissions relative to the proposed action. Only minimal benefits to residents of the air basin would be expected.</p> <p>The use of CO oxidizers would not appreciably alter the potential for human health impacts.</p> <p>The use of an alternative cooling technology at the power plants would increase air emissions, but health impacts would be minimal.</p>	<p><i>Water Quality Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> EMF impacts would be the same as those for the proposed action. Mitigation measures would result in beneficial impacts by reducing PM levels in Imperial County. Reductions in VOC and NO_x would decrease O₃ levels.</p> <p>Road paving would produce long-term reductions in PM₁₀ emissions. Fuel conversions would produce short- and long-term reductions in NO_x, CO, and VOC emissions.</p>

TABLE 2.5-1 (Cont.)

Resource (EIS Section Number)	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative Technologies	Mitigation Measures
Human Health Impacts (4.11) (Cont.)		<i>Hazardous Air Pollutants and Ammonia</i> Potential cancer risks due to HAP emissions are 0.60 to 2.22 per million. The incremental increase in cancer risk from exposure to HAPs is 0.20 to 0.72 per million; incremental increase in the chronic hazard index for exposure to HAPs plus NH ₃ is 0.001. The incremental increase in the acute hazard index is less than the significance threshold of 1.0.		
Minority and Low-Income Populations (4.12)	No additional impacts expected.	<p><i>Transmission Lines</i> Temporary impacts from noise and dust emissions and the more long-term impacts from noise and EMF in the vicinity of the transmission lines would not contribute to high and adverse impacts on the general population or to disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations in any block group.</p> <p><i>Power Plant Operations</i> Increases in air pollution due to emissions of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ were found to be below new source significance levels used as a benchmark for negligible impacts; therefore, these emissions would not contribute to high and adverse impacts on the general population or to disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations in any block group.</p> <p>Adverse impacts to fishery resources as a result of increases in Salton Sea salinity would not result in impacts on the general population. They also would not be disproportionately high and adverse for any populations that might rely on the Sea for subsistence fishing, because the same minor effects on biological resources are estimated as under the no action alternative.</p>	Installation of dry cooling or wet-dry cooling systems at the power plants would not contribute to impacts.	<p><i>Water Resources Mitigation</i> No additional impacts expected.</p> <p><i>Air Quality Mitigation</i> Mitigation measures to compensate for power plant emissions would have a beneficial impact on low-income and minority populations by improving air quality in the region. (Because of uncertainties related to the location of mitigation measures, an impact assessment at the census-block level was not conducted.)</p>

- a Abbreviations: ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern; BOD = biochemical oxygen demand; CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂ = carbon dioxide; COD = chemical oxygen demand; EMF = electric and magnetic fields; EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; HAPs = hazardous air pollutants; LRPC = La Rosita Power Complex; NH₃ = ammonia; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; O₃ = ozone; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 2.5 µm; PM₁₀ = particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than 10 µm; ROW = right-of-way; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Office; SL = significant impact level; TDM = Termoeléctrica de Mexicali; TDS = total dissolved solids; TSS = total suspended solids; VOC = volatile organic compound(s).

